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*State Trials* and in Chandler's and Dr. Wharton's books. The first is that of Levi Weeks, in 1800, for murder, the last that of Paterick Blake, in 1816, for another murder. Between them are scattered without system those of different dates, varying from the trial of the Quakers, in 1659, for returning to Massachusetts after their banishment, to that of Vallandigham before a military commission, in 1863, for treason. They are not classified according to subjects. They range from cases of murder, with which the book begins and ends, and which are distributed among the intervening pages, to one upon the charge of opening and publishing a letter, and include assault and battery, libel, enticement to prostitution, witchcraft, embezzlement, piracy, arson, contempt, and sedition.

It would have been far better if the editor had imitated Howell and published the cases in chronological order, beginning with the collections of his predecessors, supplemented by his own notes, and trials omitted by them which he considered worthy of addition.

ROGER FOSTER.

*Trans-Atlantic Historical Solidarity.* Lectures delivered before the University of Oxford in Easter and Trinity Terms, 1913. By CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS. (Oxford: The Clarendon Press. 1913. Pp. 184.)

THE title of this volume will prove a stumbling-block to cataloguers and card-indexers, and even the table of contents will afford but scant comfort to the uninitiated. The preface, however, explains the title. The author there records the substance of an interesting conversation between himself and Mr. Bryce, in the course of which the latter raised the question as to the enduring historical importance of the American Civil War. Mr. Bryce, it should be noted, has since disclaimed the emphasis which Mr. Adams has given to certain views advanced in that conversation, and Mr. Adams will in some future publication give prominence to the disclaimer.

Addressed to an English audience, these lectures were designed to emphasize those issues of the Civil War which the writer deems of first-class historical significance on both sides of the Atlantic. Of these he holds there were three: first, the issue of American nationality; secondly, that of slavery; and thirdly, that of democracy.

In the first lecture Mr. Adams maintains that the Constitution of the United States was a *modus vivendi*, that it was "both theoretically and avowedly based on a metaphysical abstraction—the idea of a divided sovereignty—in utter disregard of the fact that, when a final issue is presented—when, so to speak, the push-of-pike comes—sovereignty does not admit of division". The question of sovereignty is really a question of ultimate allegiance, and allegiance is in turn a question of citizenship. The right to determine citizenship, Mr. Adams asserts, was left

with the states. "Ultimate allegiance was, therefore, due to the State which defined and conferred citizenship, not to the central organization which accepted as citizens whomsoever a State pronounced to be such." So much for the original right of secession, but the attempt to put it into action as late as 1860, he holds, was "revolution theoretically legal".

In the second lecture Mr. Adams undertakes to show that the Confederacy staked everything on its faith in the supremacy of cotton and that the issue of the struggle was not determined on the field of Gettysburg but in England, in the Lancashire cottonspinning district and in Downing Street.

In the third lecture the writer waives all possibility of the scientific writing of history before the claims of the Goddess of Fortune. He holds that when the great diplomatic crisis of the Civil War arrived the issue turned on a question of personal pique. Lord Palmerston's jealousy of Gladstone, aroused by the latter's Newcastle speech of October 7, 1862, caused the British ministry to delay the recognition of the Southern Confederacy. We do not agree with this interpretation of history. Several things happened between Palmerston's correspondence with Russell in regard to recognition, September 14-17, and the date set for the cabinet meeting, October 23, to take action thereon. The battle of Antietam was fought September 17 and two days later General Lee retired across the Potomac. Lincoln took advantage of this success to issue his preliminary proclamation of emancipation, September 22. Had General Lee maintained himself north of the Potomac for a few weeks, the proclamation would not have been forthcoming, and the British cabinet would in all probability have decided on recognition and ultimate intervention. Thus the battle of Antietam rather than Gladstone's speech was the turning-point in the contest.

In the fourth lecture Mr. Adams advances his well-known views of Lee and claims for him a place in the quartette of world-famous Americans, the other three being Washington, Franklin, and Lincoln.

While a large part of the material of which this volume is made up has been published by the author in the form of essays and addresses, it has here been kneaded over, so to speak, and put in more permanent literary form. No American writer appreciates more keenly than Mr. Adams the dramatic force of history, and none is more successful in separating and appropriating those elements of an historical situation which are of permanent human interest. He combines in a remarkable degree historical imagination, strong analysis, and convincing logic. The present volume has all the features of his best style.

JOHN H. LATANÉ.

*Thomas Ritchie: a Study in Virginia Politics.* By CHARLES HENRY AMBLER, Ph.D. (Richmond, Virginia: Bell Book and Stationary Company. 1913. Pp. 303, xvi.)

PROFESSOR AMBLER'S book on Ritchie, editor of the Richmond